

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Reptilia, Scincidae, *Mabuya frenata*: Distribution extension

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Mabuya frenata (Cope's mabuya) is a widely distributed species in South America, occurring in Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and Brazil (Gallardo 1968; Cei 1993). In Brazil, it is fairly widespread (Figure 1), having been registered from Tocantins and southern Pará (Pinto and Araujo 2000; Vrcibradic and Moura-Leite 2003) to Rio Grande do Sul (Lema 1994). However, *M. frenata* has never been previously recorded in Rio de Janeiro (Rocha et al. 2004). On 12 April 2005 we captured three specimens of *M. frenata* (two females: 77.4 and 83.6 mm SVL, respectively; a male: 62.0 mm SVL) at the Santuário Ecológico da Serra da Concórdia (22°22'18" S 43°47'23" W; 600m a.s.l), in Valença Municipality, Rio de Janeiro State (collection permit: 055/2005 - RAN/IBAMA). All specimens were captured during the morning, at an open and anthropically disturbed site, at the border of a forest fragment. The lizards were moving and basking on a rock wall. The specimens were deposited at the reptile collection of the Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ 13377-9).

Mabuya frenata is a typical species from the Cerrado and Chaco domains (Vanzolini 1988; Colli et al. 2002), where it occurs associated to forests and dense savannas (Gallardo, 1968; C. Nogueira, pers. comm.), but it is also known to occur within the Atlantic Rainforest domain, usually at forest edges (Sazima and Haddad 1992). Thus, the occurrence of *Mabuya frenata* in the area of Serra da Concórdia is not unexpected. However, Rocha et al. (2004) provided a list of reptile species for the state of Rio de Janeiro containing a total of 127 taxa, among which *M. frenata* was not included (only three *Mabuya* species were cited: *M. agilis*, *M. dorsivittata*

and *M. macrorhyncha*). Therefore, this note provides a new state record for *M. frenata* and adds a fourth species of *Mabuya* to the fauna of Rio de Janeiro.

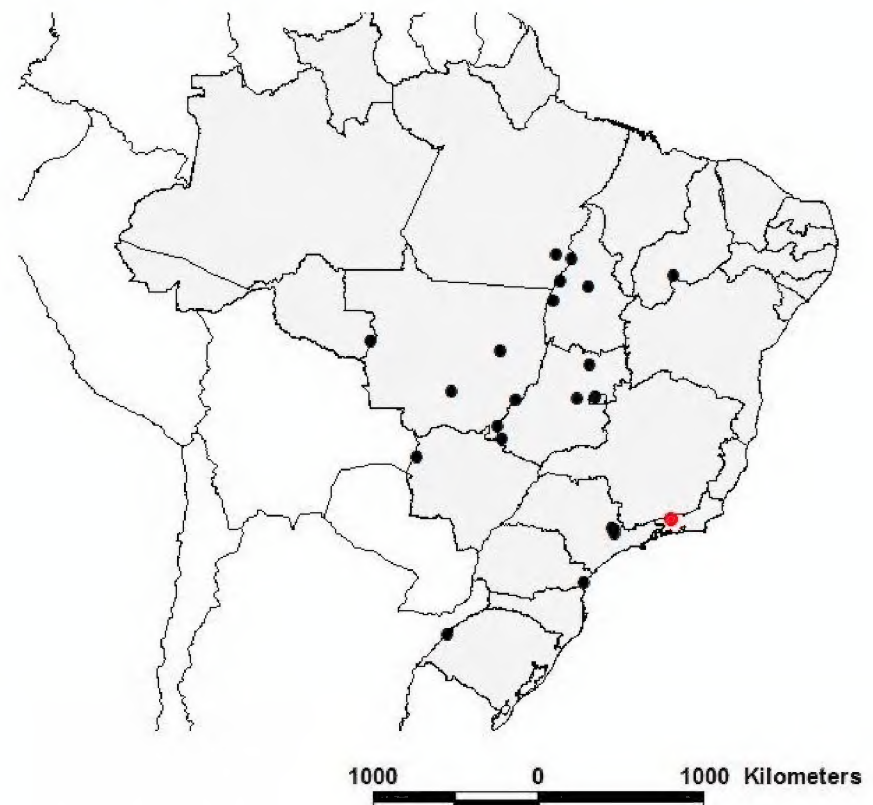


Figure 1. Geographic distribution map of *Mabuya frenata* in Brazil based on literature data (black dots) from Gallardo (1968), Bérnils and Moura-Leite (1990), Vitt (1991), Sazima and Haddad (1992), Lema (1994), Vrcibradic and Rocha (1998), Pinto and Araujo (2000), Colli et al. (2002), Gainsbury and Colli (2003), Vrcibradic and Moura-Leite (2003), and Whiting et al. (2006). The red dot represents the locality reported herein.

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